GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:632
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2014
REMAND HOMES
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the pathetic condition of remand homes and non-availability of basic facilities/infrastructure to the convicts staying therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of remand homes for women and children in the country, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to improve the condition of these homes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): As per the Prisons Act, 1894, there are no remand homes for convicts in the country and instead they are lodged in correctional Homes/Jails. As per National Crime Records Bureau at the end of 2012 there were 1394 jails in the country which included 127 central jails, 340 district jails, 806 sub jails, 20 women jails, 46 open jails, 21 Borstal school, 31 special jails and 3 other jails. The Government of India has initiated a number of steps for Prison Reforms in the country which includes a centrally sponsored scheme for modernization of prisons (2002-07) implemented in 27 States with an outlay of Rs. 1800 crores on sharing basis of 75:25 between Centre and States for construction of 125 new jails, 1579 additional barracks in existing prisons and 8658 staff quarters. In addition 13th Finance commission has also allocated Rs. 609 crores for the period 2011-2015 to 8 States- Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal -2-

Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Kerala and Tripura for upgradation of prisons in these states."Prisons" is a State subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, and Prison Administration is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

(c) to (d): As per information received from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, they are not running any remand homes nor providing any financial assistance to the States/ UTs for running remand homes. However the Ministry of Women and Child Development is providing financial assistance to States/UTs for setting up and maintenance of Special Homes and Observation Homes for juveniles in conflict with law under a centrally sponsored scheme, namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS). The State/UT-wise number of various types of Homes, including Special Homes and Observation Homes, provided financial assistance under ICPS is as per Annexure.